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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Central Slovak Iron Works
in Podbrezova

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1. The Central Slovak Iron Works, a nationalized plant in Podbrezova (Q 49/D 06), has the Czech designation, Stredoslovenske zelezarny, narodni podnik, Podbrezova. The enterprise comprises the following plants:
a steel and iron plant on the southwestern edge of Podbrezova,
an engine plant in Piesok, 2 kilometers southeast of Podbrezova,
a bridge-building plant in Brezno nad Hronom, 10 km east of Podbrezova, a
foundry in Hronec, 4 kilometers southeast of Podbrezova,
a smelting plant with blast furnaces in Tisovec, 32 kilometers southeast of
Podbrezova.
2. The Smelting Plant in Tisovec, which employs about 200 men, receives as raw material for its blast furnaces iron ore from Zelezniak Mlynky, coke from Petrvald, and lime from Tisovec.
2. The Steel and Iron Plant in Podbrezova has as chief manager Engineer Vladimir Langer and as managing engineer Engineer D. Marik. The plant has 4,500 employees, of whom 600 are office workers, 3,600 are workmen, and 300 apprentices.
4. This plant in Podbrezova is organized into a steel section, a rolling mill, a tube-making section, a steel foundry, a mechanical workshop, an electrical shop, a galvanizing shop and a joinery. The head of the steel section is Engineer Herman, and his assistant is Engineer Makovnik. There are 400 workers employed in this section, working three eight-hour shifts. The section produces wrought iron, iron for the rolling mill and the tube-making section, and steel for tools.
5. The rolling mill is directed by Engineer Kuzmeni, who is allegedly a Russian, and the deputy is Engineer K. Slivka. The rolling mill manufactures section "C", "L", and "U" iron, hoop iron of every description, iron for concrete structures, round iron of every description, metal sheets 3 to 4 mm thick, and steel plates 3 to 8 mm thick. According to workmen who were employed in the plant during the war, armor plates were produced there for German armored vehicles. The armor plates produced since the war are said to be exported to the U.S.S.R.

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6. The head of the tube-making section is Engineer R. Tucik, and the deputy is Engineer A. Helas. This section employs 500 men who work three eight-hour shifts. Mannesmann tubes are produced here with an inside diameter of 50 cm and a length of 12 meters. The production is sent to the U.S.S.R., Rumania, and the Netherlands. The steel foundry is directed by Engineer Groene, whose assistant is Engineer Fr. Kuchar. The 200 men employed in the foundry work three eight-hour shifts.
7. The plant receives its power mainly from the Central Slovak Power Plant in Banska Bystrica and the power plants in Lopeji Dubova, Josen, and Liesok.*

* Comment. The "Central Slovak Iron Works", a nationalized enterprise whose main plant is in Podbrezova, consists of the plants of the former Podbrezova Iron Works Inc. and of the former Rosenberg Iron Works, Inc., in Ruzomberok-tybar Pole. Annex 1 shows the location of the various installations of the former Podbrezova Iron Works. Slovakia's share in the iron and steel production of Czechoslovakia is small. In the field of iron, raw steel and rolled products, this share represents about 3 percent of the total production of the country. For smelting material Slovakia's share is about 7 percent. The production in Slovakia in 1947, expressed in absolute figures rounded off to 100 tons was as follows:

Pig iron	28,600 tons
Raw Steel	64,800 tons
Section iron	24,500 tons
Rollad sheets	14,100 tons
Drawn wire	11,500 tons
Steel tubes	11,300 tons
Grey castings	18,200 tons
Steel castings	1,000 tons

The production of pig iron did not start before April 1947, and the output in the second half of the year was 21,000 tons. The maximum monthly output per month reached was as follows, with annual capacity figures computed from these monthly figures.

	<u>Maximum monthly output</u>	<u>Approximate annual capacity</u>
Pig iron:	3,600 tons	45,000 tons
Raw steel:	8,000 tons	100,000 tons
Rollad material:	6,500 tons	80,000 tons
Castings:	2,000 tons	25,000 tons.

These figures indicate that the plant is working to capacity.

2 Annexes: Central Slovak Iron Works, Podbrezova
(two blueprints)

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